



Theft From Autos Public Awareness Campaign

February 24, 2009



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Theft from Automobiles Can Happen ANYWHERE

- **Thefts from vehicles occur in every state, every city, every neighborhood.**
- **No neighborhood is 100% safe.**



Facts about Theft From Autos

- Typically, a theft from auto occurs once every...

102 Minutes

- Thefts from autos account for... ***41%*** of all thefts in the region.



Facts about Theft From Autos

- Most common stolen property...GPS
- In an average day 14 vehicles are broken into
- Number of victims in 2008...5474
- Cost estimate to victim...financial, inconvenience
- Cost estimate to the Police Department
- This is a crime that can be controlled



Lock it or Lose it,
Put your Junk in your Trunk





Goals

- Educate public (crime of opportunity)
- Elevate awareness
- Target harden
- Deter offenders
- Reduce victimization



Public Education Strategy

- Distribute flyers
- Targeted Mailings
- Continue education at community forums
- Public Service Announcements
- Web Based Services
- Community volunteers and stakeholders assisting



CINCINNATI
POLICE
DEPARTMENT

THEFTS FROM AUTOS



For more information, please contact
the Cincinnati Police Department

District One: (513) 352-4566
District Two: (513) 979-4470
District Three: (513) 263-8366
District Four: (513) 569-8655
District Five: (513) 569-8506

FOLLOW THESE SUGGESTIONS TO HELP DETER CRIMINALS:

- Take your keys out of your vehicle
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended lots
- Leave only the ignition/
door key with
the lot attendant
- Completely close car
windows when
parking
- Do not leave valuables in plain view
(place items in your trunk if they must
be left in the car)
- Use your garage
- Lock your garage door and the vehicle
inside
- Engrave expensive accessories
- Use tire/wheel locks
- Install an audible alarm
- Take out removable radios and face plates
- Avoid parking between large vehicles
(they provide cover)
- Do not approach your vehicle when a
stranger is near it; call 911 or security
for an escort



ITEMS TO AVOID LEAVING IN PLAIN VIEW:

- Cell Phones
- GPS Navigation Systems
- Charger Cords
- Antennas
- Pagers
- Sports Equipment
(golf and baseball bags)
- iPods
- Cigarettes
- Weapons
- CDs/DVDs
- Briefcases
- Purses
- Wallets
- Radar Detectors
- Laptop Computers
- Removable Radios
- Clothing
- Money (loose change)
- Cassette Tapes
- Address Books
- Credit Cards
- Console Visors



BE AWARE OF CRIMINALS' METHODS AND LOCATIONS:

Entry Methods:

- Break glass
- Left unlocked
- Pried/jimmied
- Windows rolled down or half-rolled
down
- Window vents
- Sliding windows (mainly trucks)
- Sunroofs
- Convertibles

Most Common Points of Entry:

- Side and rear window
- Side door

High Risk Areas:

- Apartments
- Single family residences
- Auto Parts/Dealers/Repair Shops
- Shopping Centers
- Restaurants
- Parks
- Bars

Suspicious Actions:

- Pulling door handles
- Looking in windows
- Odd clothing for the time of year
(long coats or gloves worn in Summer)
- Lookouts
- Nervous looking
- Checking for alarms by bumping or
hitting the window or bumpers for
sensitivity



Police Strategies

- Target fencing operations
- Focused Patrols/ Walking/Bike/Covert
- Investigators dispatched on all cases where viable evidence is suspected
- Targeting Repeat Offenders
- Use “bait cars”
- Track stolen goods
- Monitor scrap yards for catalytic converters



**If we work together, as a
team, we CAN minimize
this problem!**